

Criteria for Accelerated Reader® Reader Certification Levels

Reader certification levels in Renaissance Accelerated Reader are motivating benchmarks for students. They can help students with transitional phases in reading, such as moving from picture books to chapter books; prompt students to broaden their reading experiences; and encourage them to tackle the complex text defined by Common Core State Standards as the goal for their grade band. Except for Honors Reader and Exemplar Reader, Accelerated Reader software keeps track of each student’s certification level. Teachers can monitor progress with the Diagnostic Report, TOPS Report, Reader Certification Level Report, and Goal History Report. Students may certify at a level up to five times, with the exception of Independent Reader, which students achieve only once and which teachers must approve in the software before students can move on to higher levels. Accelerated Reader also provides certificates that teachers can print when students reach their goals. Criteria for each level are below.

Level	Criteria
Ready Reader	Accumulate five points on books Read To, Read With, and/or Read Independently.
Independent Reader	Read independently and pass the Reading Practice Quizzes for three books at a 1.2 level or higher. Accumulate 10 points. Points may include books Read To and/or Read With, but only the three books read independently at a 1.2 level or higher count toward the three-book goal. Points earned for Ready Reader are not included.
Rising Reader	Read independently and pass the Reading Practice Quizzes for three books at a 1.6 level or higher. Accumulate 10 points from independent reading. Only the books read independently at a 1.6 level count toward the three-book goal.
Super Reader	Read independently and pass the Reading Practice Quizzes for three books at a 2.0 level or higher worth one or more points each.
Advanced Reader	Read independently and pass the Reading Practice Quizzes for three books at a 3.0 level or higher worth two or more points each.
Star Reader	Read independently and pass the Reading Practice Quizzes for three books at a 4.0 level or higher worth four or more points each.
Classic Reader	Read independently and pass the Reading Practice Quizzes for three books at a 6.0 level or higher worth seven or more points each.
Honors Reader	Read, pass the Reading Practice Quizzes, and accumulate 100 points for books on a list of challenging literature that a teacher creates. Teachers must manually keep track of students’ progress toward this level using TOPS or Student Record Reports.
Exemplar Reader	Read, pass the Reading Practice Quizzes, and accumulate points for books on the Common Core State Standards Exemplar List for the student’s grade band, or equivalent texts identified by the teacher. Teachers and students must keep track of progress manually using a special form. See the Resource document titled “Exemplar Reader Certification” for a complete explanation and forms.

Students must achieve the minimum scores set in the preferences area of the software for quiz results to count toward certification. The default is 60 percent on five- and 10-question quizzes and 70 percent on 20-question quizzes. This may be changed to 80 percent for all quizzes.